Management of wildlife and game sanctuaries

914. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to assist State Governments for proper management of all game sancturies in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that State Governments have been demanding financial assistance for management of their wildlife and game sanctuaries;

(c) the response of Government to claims and demands for such assistance;

(d) whether any formula will be drawn up to increase the financial assistance to State Governments for their wildlife management and protection; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Financial assistance for development of National Parks and Sanctuaries is provided to Government of States/UTs on submission of Annual Plan of Operations by them subject to availability of funds.

(d) and (e) The wildlife management and protection is mainly the responsibility of the State Governments. Under Centrally Sponsored Schemes financial assistance is provided to the State Government for infrastructure development, communication and habitat management for effective wildlife management and protection. Assistance is provided on the basis of Annual Plan of Operations submitted by the States/UTs and subject to availability of funds.

Government's failure in environmental sector

915. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our environmental organisations have expressed unhappiness over Government's failure in the environmental sector;

(b) whether the NGOs have given some suggestions to improve Government's role on environmental issues; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and how far these have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA) : (a) to (c) The Government has not received any such communication from these organizations. However, NGOs are involved in various committees and programmes implemented by the Government in environmental sector and their suggestions to improve Government's role on environmental issues for implementation of various programmes are considered.

Flyash creating environmental problem

916. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several thousand tonnes of flyash is being generated daily by thermal power plants in the Capital which has created storage and environmental problem;

(b) if so, the estimated generation of flyash by those power plants daily; and

(c) what steps Government have taken for its utilization and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 5,200 tonnes of flyash is being generated daily by Thermal Power Plants in the Capital.

(c) Government of India, Central Public Works Department has already included flyash bricks/products, pozzolana cement in their specifications, schedule of rates and tender documents. Similar steps have been taken by Delhi Administration. The Department of Road Transport and Highways has already directed all its field agencies including National Highways Authority of India to use flyash in the construction of roads. The DDA, MCD and NDMC are also utilising flyash as landfill wherever possible. With the above measures about 9,63,000 tonnes of flyash could be utilised by Thermal Power Plants in Delhi in 2003-04 which is about 59% of total ash generated by them.